

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

Examiner: Unassigned

Browning et al.

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Serial No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: On even date herewith

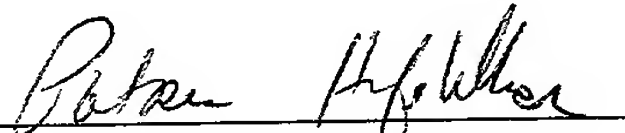
For: Soluble Lymphotoxin-Beta Receptors And Anti-Lymphotoxin Receptor
And Ligand Antibodies As Therapeutic Agents For The Treatment Of
Immunological Diseases

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express mail, under Express mail No. EL543620827US to: BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

31 October 2007

Date



Patricia Hofstetter

Preliminary Amendment

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The present Preliminary Amendment is filed concurrently with the filing of a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of Application 09/299,139 which is currently pending (in Group Art Unit 1642 - Examiner G. Bansal). After granting a filing date in the above-referenced patent application and prior to calculation of the filing fee, kindly enter the following preliminary amendments and remarks:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On Page 1, after the title please add: --This is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/299,139 filed April 23, 1999, now pending, which claims the benefit under 35

U.S.C. Section 365 (c) of International Application No. PCT/US97/19435, filed October 24, 1997, now abandoned, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application, 60/029,060, filed October 25, 1996. --

On Page 1, line 8, delete "lymphotoxin-8" and replace with -- lymphotoxin- β --.

IN THE TITLE

On page 1, cancel the title "Soluble Lymphotoxin-Beta Receptors and Anti-Lymphotoxin Receptor and Ligand Antibodies as Therapeutic Agents for the Treatment of Immunological Diseases" and replace with - - Soluble Lymphotoxin-Beta Receptors as Therapeutic Agents for the Treatment of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. --.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

--51. A method of treating, preventing, or eliminating systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) in a mammal comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a soluble lymphotoxin-beta receptor (LT β R).

--52. The method according to claim 51, wherein the soluble LT- β -R comprises a ligand binding domain that can selectively bind to a surface LT ligand.

--53. The method according to claim 52, wherein the ligand binding domain comprises a functional sequence of amino acids selected from the amino acids of SEQ ID. NO. 1 (Figure 1).

--54. The method according to claim 51, wherein the soluble LT- β -R further comprises one or more heterologous protein domains.

--55. The method according to claim 54, wherein the heterologous protein domain is selected from the group consisting of immunoglobulins, serum albumin, lipoproteins, apolipoproteins and transferrin.

--56. The method according to claim 51, wherein the soluble LT- β -R comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

--57. The method according to claims 51-56, wherein the mammal is human.

--58. The method of claims 51-56 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or adjuvant.


Remarks

The foregoing amendments in the specification are solely to provide information on the Related Applications to the above referenced application and to conform the title with the claims. They do not raise any issues of new matter introduction. Similarly the new claims are fully supported by the specification, and specifically by pages 8, line 13, page 9, line 18-19, page 46, line 14 and page 47, lines 20-21(SLE); as well as page 11, lines 11-12 and page 14, lines 20-22 (ligand binding domain); and page 29, lines 20-33 (heterologous fusion proteins). Entry of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please call the undersigned at (617) 679-2079.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10-31-01


Niki Cox, Esq. Reg. No. 42,446

BIOGEN, INC.
14 Cambridge Center
Cambridge, MA 02142
(617) 679-2079 (Direct)
(617) 679-2838 (Facsimile)